

How to Fly the American Flag

- The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
- The flag is never allowed to touch the ground or floor.
- When hung over a sidewalk on a rope extending from a building to a pole, the union stars are always away from the building.
- When vertically hung over the center of the street, the flag always has the union stars to the north on an east/west street, and to the east on a north/south street.
- The flag of the United States of America should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of states or localities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs.
- The flag should never be festooned, drawn back, nor up in folds, but always allowed to fall free.
- The flag should be displayed at half-staff until noon on Memorial Day then raised to the top of the staff.
- Never fly the flag upside down except as a signal of distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property.
- The flag is never flown in inclement weather except when using an all-weather flag.
- The flag can be flown every day from sunrise to sunset and at night if illuminated properly.



State Senator Bruce Patterson

7th District | The State Capitol | P.O. Box 30036

Lansing, MI 48909 | Lansing Phone: (517) 373.7350

Toll-Free: 1.866.262.7307 | E-Mail: senbpatterson@senate.michigan.gov



"As your state senator , I stand ready to review state anti-terrorism efforts, emergency response procedures, airport security and Michigan National Guard readiness. Please keep all the brave men and women, and their families, in your thoughts."

– State Senator Bruce Patterson

Pledge of Allegiance

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag should be rendered by standing at attention, facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform, men should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.

The Star-Spangled Banner

*O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the rampart we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?*

During rendition of the national anthem when the flag is displayed, all present except those in uniform should stand at attention, facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Men not in uniform should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should render the military salute at the first note of the anthem and retain this position until the last note. When the flag is not displayed, those present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed there.